BULLETIN from

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F I C T I O N

MUST BOOKS

~~June 19~~ July 19

Williams, Ben Ames — IT'S A FREE COUNTRY — Houghton, Mifflin $2.00

Free to squander lives? to squander land? to squander inheritance and responsibility and time? to squander talents? -- Such is the question posed by this story of a marriage built on compulsion of public opinion and wrecked on the assumption that freedom connotes license. The girl had great promise and her workworn mother had built her hopes and dreams on her daughter's future - until easy passion caught her in its grip. The man, likable, indolent, victim of ready friendships and an assurance that the rundown farm he inherits and the few thousands in the bank will take care of wants as well as needs, finds out - too late - that his substance has gone, his family grown out of hand, and only the WPA can give him a slim living. In the process, the marriage has disintegrated into frictions, fears, and - on the wife's part - grim determination to give her daughter the chance she had missed, even at the sacrifice of her own integrity (as she steals from her husband) - her son's standards (as he accepts petty theft as a normal thing) - her younger children's well-being - and finally, her husband's final clutching at a chance to redeem his own pride, when the war provides jobs for all and war bonds a chance to make a contribution to his "free country". And then, at the close, the daughter for whom so much had been paid, repeats her mother's mistake - and the mother, driven by despair into madness, kills her. There the story ends - a story of mounting tension, of disillusion, of characters for whom one can feel little sympathy. A sure seller on the basis of his last two best sellers.

~~June 19~~ July 31

Sabatini, Rafael — Birth of Mischief ~~KING OF PRUSSIA~~ — Houghton, Mifflin $2.50

Two-panel portrait of Frederick the Great, first as conditioned by his grim father in the early years of Prussia's formation, later as ruler, demonstrating those qualities latent in his youth, and playing France, Austria and England against each other in a play for power. An acid-etched portrait, underscoring the duplicity of German mentality, the roots of German zest for power, of German arrogance - as foil for adventure-romance of an exiled English marquess - Alverley - who becomes Frederick's intimate, when he secures a job through his German cousin, Katte, under Frederick William. Alverley loses his heart to Prince William's favorite accompanist, Dorothea, and - soon realizing William's unwholesome development, he kidnaps Dorothea and escapes to France, determined to find eventually a chance to revenge the death of Katte. The chance comes years later, when, to save his life after a duel with Richelieu's nephew, he accepts the dishonourable commission from Cardinal Fleury to spy on Frederick, involved in tangled plottings. Holding story - action tightly plotted - revealing historical interpretation.

June ~~12~~ 8

Sinclair, Upton — DRAGON HARVEST — Viking $3.00

Predictable - with the big following the Lanny Budd saga has secured, for this again is dependable contemporary adventure, a thriller written against the headlines,

with plausible (sometimes) footnotes to history in the contribution such a character as Lanny Budd might be making. Lanny, "scion of privilege" is still acting as P(residential) A(gent), still walking the tightrope of the appeaser, the friend of high-ranking Nazis, of British Fascists, of French collaborators - while beneath the patina of the art collector and dealer, who refuses to take sides, he is actually feeding important material to the White House, and helping the German Underground with funds, through Monck, now that Trudi is dead. Two new women enter his life, but he manages to avoid entangling alliances though Lisbeth, another Irma in the making, angles for his favor; and Laurel Creston, writer, has to be smuggled out of Germany , via a trick in Lanny's repertoire of the occult. Hitler, Goering, Hess - all play into Lanny's hands, but with the actual blitzkrieg under way, and Paris in German hands, Lanny is left pretty close to last act in his double role...My hunch on the enormous success of this series (this is, I think, the sixth) is that Sinclair tells a fast paced story which has a background of known facts and of backstairs gossip of the rich and famous.

PROBLEMATICAL BOOKS - Fiction

May 10

Kuhn, Rene — 34 CHARLTON — Appleton-Century $2.75

A background of the Greenwich Village of old houses and old families -- an unhackneyed atmosphere for an unassuming panel of family conflict. The Mulloy family was dominated by the grandmother, whose devotion to her sons, rather than her daughters, kept all in subjection except for her husband and her granddaughter, Katherine, whom her grandfather conditioned to independence whatever the cost. Old Mrs. Mulloy manipulated the lives under her power; but even after her grandfather's death, Katherine, in a household of women ruled by her grandmother, held to his precepts, went to business school, got herself a job and found new, outside interests, regardless of the disapproval of her relative. Then the grandmother died, but the pressure continued as the women financed a worthless brother and made greater demands on the girl. To break the pattern, she moved out, only to come to the very brink of losing her independence in order to support them until the discovery that this meant supporting her worthless uncle, too, broke her bondage and freed her to live her own life, with the young artist she loves...The manuscript won a top award in the 1944 Hopwood contest.

~~May 15~~ July.

Neumann, Alfred — SIX OF THEM — Macmillan $3.00

A psychological study of the anti-Nazi in Germany today, through an intricately patterned story of six people arrested for distribution of inflammatory anti-Nazi literature in the University of Munich. The story is told in reverse - as the case of each is revealed from childhood conditioning on, showing the processes by which the Nazi philosophy was forced upon Germany. Tortuously interwoven, as to plot, with a style that is involved and artificial and overladen, this novel has in addition the hurdle to take of inevitable reluctance to concede sympathy to Germans, no matter how victimized. There is much in the story that is revealing - all "six of them" are victims, both in life and death, of Nazi brutality. But their story makes difficult reading.

June ~~5~~ 13

La Penta, Helen — PICCOLA — Harper ✓$2.00

A segment of childhood, which is gentle and artlessly appealing, for the story of serious, speculative Piccola left in a convent in Italy at the death of her mother and only remotely aware of the world beyond those walls. Changes come suddenly, and are accepted reluctantly, as Piccola is taken from the convent first to live with an uncle, then with her Italian grandparents, and finally with the American artist-father whom she

does not remember, and whose absence and desertion she comes to understand when she realize how deeply he was affected by the death of her mother. He took her to America and they settled in a New England village, and gradually Piccola makes the transition to a new life and a new world. Slight story - with no political implications although the background is relatively contemporary - affecting in its innocence.

June 6

Beverley-Giddings, A.R. BROAD MARGIN Morrow $2.50

A book for women, primarily, in a story of gracious, gentle living among pleasant people in Tidewater Virginia today. A contemporary love story of Melody and Page, as Page. badly wounded and discharged from the RAF, returns to Virginia with a psycho-pathological impotence which brings Melody's family into opposition as she falls in love with him and wants to marry him. For a year even Melody's faith and love fails to jar him out of his condition of dispirited lethargy. But finally he turns to hard labor, and in marrying Melody achieves confidence in his recovery now that he no longer feels he is fighting alone. Romantic side plots fill out the major theme which is delicately handled. Upper grade rentals.

June 7

Bassett, Sara Ware SILVER MOON COTTAGE Doubleday, Doran $2.00

Cape Cod assortment of family life and problems, as young Kathie finds a new heart interest, meddles in her uncle's affairs, and at last learns that old love is best and adults manage without her interference...Uncle Jim, jilted by the woman he was to have married, has kept the cottage that was to have been theirs as a shrine to the memory of his love. Kathie derides his devotion to a "worthless female" - so he rents it to a mysterious Mrs. Harcourt. Kathie, enamoured of newcomer Roswell finds doubts about him when he seems to be inextricably bound to Mrs. Harcourt, and turns again to her old childhood friend Milton, home from overseas on furlough. Meantime, Jim has refused Mrs. Harcourt's offer to buy the house, and she purchases an old family house. Then he discovers that she is his long lost love, ready now to marry him. And Kathie's decision is made for her when she learns that Milton has been seriously wounded...Unprepossessing light romance - bland diet for conservatives.

June 11

Amado, Jorge THE VIOLENT LAND Knopf $2.50

Brazil - and the bloody beginnings of the cacao plantations - days when the land was fertilized with the blood of men that died so that other men might win the right to seize lands that were to be stripped of their forests and planted in the trees that bore fruit of gold. There was Horacio, who would let nothing stand in his way; his one weakness his wife, Ester, and who believed in her until after her death when he found she had slept with an attorney, Virgilio - and then Virgilio must die. There were the Badaro brothers, who claimed the identical land Horacio lusted for, and who hired a card sharper, Capt. Joao, to make a fake survey of the land, and file claim. And a women was Joao's weakness, too, for he loved Don' Ana. Then there was Margot, prostitute who had financed Virgilio, and who left him when he took on Ester. No central theme as in an American story of a frontier. A novel of the soil - as "the violent land" achieved status.

Ingalls, Jeremy TAHL Knopf $3.50

One wonders who will read this long novel in verse written by a young poet and telling in some 250 pages the story of Tahl, a musician. Tahl seems to have been a big boisterous artist; Allison was his sweetheart. He talked a lot, pounded the tables in

Greenwich Village restaurants, travelled widely, loved humanity, and withal seems to have made a big impression on his friends. One has a feeling of being shunted back to the growing pains of the new century, the days of Harry Kemp, Bob Minor, Jack Reed. Or perhaps, as has been cynically noted, these are not individuals, only recurring types. Whatever the content, the verse is poor, the story sophomoric, not redeemed by recurrent references to the sea, unicorns and thunder.

June 11

Shipman, Natalie CALL BACK YESTERDAY Prentice Hall $2.00

Adequately accomplished ladies' magazine contributor with a novel of a New England small town and two people with trouble in their pasts. Jim had lost his wife, Helen, and at 39 was gradually getting over the shock of her death. Alden Blake, sensitive, reserved and now secretary to a friend, he remembers intuitively as a child of eight whom he had seen during one of the *crimes celebres* of the era - when her father shot her mother. He hides his knowledge, accepting her as Alden Blake - and not the Honora Brooks she had been; he tells her he loves her, but cannot break down her reserves. And then her mother reappears, a drug and drink addict, and dies, leaving Alden free to marry Jim. Predigested, but palatable at that. Rentals chiefly.

June 14

Albrand, Martha NONE SHALL KNOW Little, Brown $2.00

Dependable romance-adventure by the author of *No Surrender* - a story that will appeal to those who liked Kay Boyle's *Avalanche*. Custom tailoring for the non-neutral actions of the neutral Swiss, as Antonia, working for a charitable organization caring for children of war areas, becomes part of an underground anti-Nazi movement, and Julian, posing as a ne'er do well art expert, leads a double life on secret Intelligence missions. They love each other and are unsuspicious, until they are both subjected to the pursuit of German Mertens, a killer, on the trail of the cause back of individual acts of violence in war areas, as parents whose children are safe have taken justice into their own hands. At Davos, Antonia is forced to kill Mertens, saving Julian and herself. Then, with one of her charges kidnapped, she and Julian fall into a trap from which they are saved by the children themselves...This puts an end to their part in the underground's operations, and they can look forward together to a different type of work in the future. (SEP serialization).

~~Early~~ June 25

Kossak, Zofia THE LEPER KING Roy $2.50

The author of *Blessed Are the Meek* with another richly caparisoned historical novel, this time a tale of the Twelfth Century, when the rule of Baldwin IV, king of Jerusalem, was vastly disturbed by conflict with Saladin, and by the machinations of the Knights Templar and his own wanton sister, Sibylla. The story is slow getting under way, and for this reader at least, lacked the emotional appeal of its predecessor. One could feel pity and respect for the young king, a leper from boyhood, foiled in his desire to find a good successor, and forced, near the end of his life, to lead a brilliant charge against the foe, with his sword lashed to his rotting hand, and his helpless legs strapped to his saddle. But one had nothing but scorn for the lovely snake woman, Sibylla, plotting against the kingdom, against the serenity of the weak Guy de Lusignan, whom she weaned from his true love, and manipulated into marriage through a trick. Briefly rulers, after the death of her infant son, they lost the gains of the leper king, and eventually made necessary the Third Crusade. A complex situation, not brought into focus by the intricacies of this story, makes *The Leper King* hard reading. The success of the earlier book will stimulate sales for this.

June 28

Sturgis, Robert HALF-PAST YESTERDAY M.S. Mill
$2.50

A novel of marriage in which the war determines the outcome of a triangle, of adjustments between husband and wife speeded up because of the swiftness of life in wartime. Plausible and honest - if not important - story of Joe Brennan, his marriage of five years' standing - and the war. From the wrong side of the tracks, Joe has married socialite Alice, given up his newspaper work, and gone into her father's bank. Recognizing a stalemate, he finds release when the draft puts him into Signal Corps. A visit from Alice heals over some of the scars of their marriage, but he soon finds that she is interested in another man, an old beau now divorced, so Joe turns to Ann, who seems to offer all he needs. Then Alice is jilted a second time - and refuses Joe a divorce - and Ann marries the Naval officer to whom she is engaged. Joe takes Alice back, and in the face of realization that he is bound overseas, and with his own integrity reestablished by having a novel accepted for publication, he finds that after all, his marriage offers something that could not be displaced.

Roueche, Berton BLACK WEATHER Reynal & Hitchcock
$2.50

A first novel, and a slow, sinister study in evil among helpless little people as Mrs. Pew's rundown rooming house in a midwestern city brings near disaster to Lolly and Hagen. Lolly, pregnant and fearful, finds her first security in the shabby comfort of Mrs. Pew's old house; Hagen, with a small job on the morgue of a newspaper, has given her the only real companionship she has known until she thinks she has found a friend in the massive Mrs. Pew. But Mrs. Pew is sex driven, resentful of women who have men, obsessed and obscene, and it is Hagen who first recognizes her fetid frustrations, her obvious attempts to frighten his wife, by suggestion and insinuation. Then she attacks them openly - but fails to destroy Lolly and her baby...Absorbingly told, but unpleasant reading, this portrait in pathological perversion and violence, offset effectively by the commonplace, the inadequate in the people against which it is directed.

~~June 17~~ July

Teilhet, Darwin L. THE FEAR MAKERS Appleton-Century
$2.75

Returned casualty, facing a final brain operation, hero Captain Eaton, intent on heading West and home, finds that his partner in a poll interpretation business, has been killed, and that the business is being perverted and wartime propaganda techniques are being used to influence public opinion in prejudice, bias and disruption. He is kept on in Washington by one incident after another - he falls in love with a lovely Jewish refugee, constantly combats the implication that his loss of memory has affected his mind, and finally ties together the loose threads of a widespread threat to unity, and is able to face his last operation with a sense of assurance and safety. A tangential style sleeks up the action...counterirritant for homefront problems.

Van Duyn, Janet I MARRIED THEM Howell, Soskin
$2.50

Frantic family frescoe providing mild hilarity in a story of a girl who married into a family of doctors, and became one of a wildly erratic, energetic household in a disintegrating, Victorian mansion in upstate New York. Carrie, her mother-in-law, met every situation with equanimity; Mac, her - father-in-law, circulated independently; George, her husband, made her his guinea pig; Aunt Grace painted, and Pim, her sister-in-law, made trouble with her suspicions of her father and her own succession of unsuitable suitors. Haphazard annals, of the life with family genre. The publishers have tremendous faith in it. We thought it amusing but not top drawer. Illustrated.

One Late Comer

Doughty, Le Garde S. THE MUSIC IS GONE Duell, Sloan & Pearce $2.50

Laconic prose but warm interpretation for a portrait of the south, of the ragged border lands of St. John's County, of desolate poverty and ignorance in Negroes who never had a chance and whites who had lost hope. Among them lived one man, last of the country doctors, who gave his life to his people and who redeemed their hopelessness through two youngsters. Will Gray, skillful, benevolent, far-seeing, and lonely at the death of his wife, fights narrow political practices when he puts through the swamp drainage which will wipe out malaria. He escapes the sorrow of his own childlessness when he adopts, unofficially, Raz, who wanted to be a doctor, and Lucia, whose talent and love for music he encourages. Through the opportunity he gives these two he sees fulfilled the promise he had recognized. There's a nice quality to this, in the man, and in Lucia and Raz, along with indigenous regional portraiture.

DEPARTMENT OF BAFFLERS

April 20

Allan, Dennis BORN TO BE MURDERED M.S. Mill $2.00

Substandard, this NYC publishing house murder, unintegratedly sleuthed by front-page, famous Neil O'Brien, his blind brother Larry and Inspector Capelli. O'Brien, trying to protect the woman he loves, is confronted with a disappearance, another killing. He is forced to concede honors to his brother who traces the pattern and brings the criminals to justice.

Rowe, Anne FATAL PURCHASE M.S. Mill $2.00

Orientalia, from antiques to anti-American activites, as filler for murder when Rhana, cataloguing Henry Maxfield's collection of priceless Chinese objets d'art brings him the Buddha which leads to his death. Disturbed by the presence of Japanese national treasures in the collection, surprised by being named as his beneficiary, Rhana - with Judd Norton of the FBI - solve a question of Japanese espionage as well as murder. Feminine, flossy, but readable.

May 1

Woodward, Helen MONEY TO BURN McKay $2.00

First of a new crime series - to be called Armchair Mysteries - under the McKay imprint, this is a packed-with-action yarn of theft and murder in an establishment that sells furniture on the installment plan. A fire, where no cause is evident - a theft, in a locked cashier's cage - a murder, when all the suspects had alibis - and three beauties who confuse the detective's sensibilities, combine to provide the reader with entertainment - and not too great a strain on the brain cells.

May 25

Holman, Hugh TROUT IN THE MILK M.S. Mill $2.00

A southern small town and surprising Sheriff Macready supply atmosphere for the murder of rich, despotic Mr. Sirdar, who owns the town and the people in it. Mixed motives financial and emotional, put into place by Macready as he plays true and false with the dead man's niece, the man she didn't want to marry, a labor organizer, a regional novelist, and others....A presentable job.

May 29

Raine, William McLeod WHO WANTS TO LIVE FOREVER? Houghton, Mifflin $2.00

Cattle stealing, bad men stepped up to the times as supplies to black market are stolen, by truck, from the 7-Up and Down Range, whose owner, Dale, finds that enemy Hal turns into a valuable ally in helping her oust rustlers and dangerous neighbors. Having accomplished the clean up, and his romance, Hal sets out to do the same to the Japs...OK.

June 19

Bellairs, George CALAMITY AT HARWOOD Macmillan $2.00

Lt. Littlejohn confronted by murder confused with hauntings and poltergeists as real estate developer, Solomon Burt, is killed in his new apartment. All tenants are suspect, and found to be linked in Nazi bunds, but ittakes a bit of doing to track down the motivating factor. Littlejohn achieves his goal spectacularly and successfully. British but not in their best tradition.

Allan, Francis FIRST COME, FIRST KILL 6/26 Reynal & Hitchcock $2.00

* A newcomer with a first rate and holding mystery, and a detective who is at times as inadequate and mistaken as the most puzzled of his reading public. A death that was not suicide, four heirs, each with a chance to kill, and three of the four fearful that he would be suspect and manufacturing evidence to throw the detective off the trail - and an outsider who tried to use his guilty knowledge to pull a blackmail stunt and failed - a hidden identity in the person of the corpse of a woman who had tried to warn the first victim whose apparent suicide started the whole intricate unravelling of the tangled web:- such is the set up into which John Storm is precipitated.

June 21

Dickson, Carter THE CURSE OF THE BRONZE LAMP Morrow $2.00

* Sir Henry Merrivale's further encounters with the impossible, as he routs out Dirty Work from Cairo to England, in the disappearance of an archaeologist's daughter, cursed by the possession of a bronze lamp found in recent diggings. H.M. blasts his way through high emotional temperatures, and as the girl's father also disappears, provides a triple clarification that forever brands the perpetrators of a smuggling plot. Entertaining puzzlement.

Watch for These Titles

Not a Must Book in the lot; not even a Dark Horse on which we'd advise a big gamble. In the Lauterbach THESE ARE THE RUSSIANS (Harper) we have a telling antidote to White's inflammatory anti-Russian book; in Koestler (THE YOGI AND THE COMMISSAR - Macmillan) and in Cloete (AGAINST THESE THREE - Houghton) and in Romulo (MY BROTHER AMERICANS - Doubleday) you have three names that will pull sales probably larger than the books on their own would justify; and in MISSION BEYOND DARINESS by Bryan and Reed (Duell, Sloan & Pearce) you have the best of war reportage of the current month. See reports.

PROBLEMATICAL BOOKS - Non-fiction

May 10

Mumford, Lewis — CITY DEVELOPMENT — Harcourt, Brace $2.00

Subtitled "Studies in Disintegration and Renewal"- this is a collection of essays all but two of which have already been published. They show the evolution of his social and economic thinking as well as his preoccupation with the disintegrating forces which created large metropolitan centers and are now stifling them. The author-America's leading student of the development of cities - takes New York, Honolulu and London to exemplify his theories. In discussing London, he considers the region as all England; the two hitherto unpublished essays are linked with this section, - *Post-War Building and The Plan of London.* He bases his approach to his ideas of the needs of human beings for constructive, vigorous living. He points out that crowding in cities is accompanied by a declining birth rate, final proof of moral decay. He pleads for new emphasis on the family, on social cooperation, on renewed controls...Special market.

May 11

Fishbein, Morris - *Ed.* — DOCTORS AT WAR — Dutton $5.00

A series of reports on the medical services today, their programs and procedures, organization and accomplishments. Factual and statistical evidence predominates over personal and human interest for what is largely an accounting of objectives and actualities There is the medical side of selective service, the mobilization of 50,000 doctors and their allocation, the army doctor, the army surgeon in action, and the amazing life-saving record of advanced surgery; the navy doctor, the flight surgeon. Allied medical work on the home front, convalescence and rehabilitation hospitals, the Veterans' Administration, Red Cross, and National Research Council - and what they have achieved. This reaffirms with precise information as approved by the medical association bigwigs, the superiority of medicine in this war. It should prove comforting to anxious families of men in service, but the whole story has yet to be told.

May ~~15~~ 23

Lauterbach, Richard E. — THESE ARE THE RUSSIANS — Harper $3.00

* Those who felt on reading White's *Report On The Russians* that if "books are bullets" he was supplying bullets against our allies, will find in this book the other side of the same picture. For Lauterbach was one of the four correspondents who accompanied Eric Johnson and his party, who saw the same factories that White criticized so adversely, and met many of the same people, and heard many of the same conversations. But where White apparently went in with chip on shoulder, daring anynne to knock it off, and came out with a bigger chip, Lauterbach bears witness to the extraordinary facts of achievement, he reports also the full awareness of the Russians as to the failures and shortcomings, but he

understands what is involved - plants moved great distances and set up in makeshift buildings, lack of equipment, a new generation of workers with no background of industry. Lauterbach writes fully of things White ignored, - of the policy towards minority groups, of the impressive development in brief span of years of backward Central Asia, of rapid strides made towards restoration in devastated areas and the cooperation between sections far apart, of the realistic point of view taken by Moscow in regard to aid to processes of reconstruction, with services first, then factories, then homes, and the emphasis on the individual housing units instead of group housing. He writes too of education - of combatting disease - of child care. He feels that Russia's socialist structure is what has saved her, and points to the growth of the Communist Party, its new and progressive leadership, the attitude towards religion and the church as evidence of the dynamic qualit: of the system. His report on the Katyn Forest scandal presents arguments pro and con, without drawing final conclusions. He writes feelingly of the murder mills at Maidanek, and Lublin. Dramatic use of anecdotal material and human stories, of pictures of Petrov and Leningrad, of Moscow, of Odessa. Pen portraits of the Soviet leaders, - particularly Stalin, Molotov, Zhukov, Novikov, Pokryshkin. And - in answer to the question as to what is back of Russia's victory, he quotes Petrov:- "Russia rose above the chaos of war...and subordinated itself to the war..."He feels that Russians have lived beyond the period of mass acceptance, have learned to think, to take initiative, to depend upon their native versatility. In his final chapters he summarizes the fears under which the Soviet operates fears of our attitudes, and distortions, our lack of realism, etc. We must learn to look beyond the labels, to reexamine old prejudices. We must learn to work with Russia.

May 22

Koestler, Arthur THE YOGI AND THE COMMISSAR Macmillan $3.00

The author of *Darkness At Noon* has won the right to be heard, for his perceptive and imaginative handling of the psychology behind the Moscow trials. For that reason, the section of this series of essays and articles devoted to Soviet Russia will be particularly interesting for his discriminating, devoted following. One may not agree with his conclusion that "Soviet Russia is a State-capitalistic totalitarian autocracy...progressive in its economic structure...politically, culturally reactionary...compared with most capitalist democracies."...The essays range from literary to political criticism - from a discussion of what to read - a tribute to Richard Hillary and his generation - a PS to *Scum of the Earth* as he received further word of Le Vernet, concentration camp - fascism and democracy, a question of degree - our undemocratic processes which make this war a fight "against a total lie in the name of a half truth"...and finally the essays on the Soviet. A difficult hurdle in the title. Koestler is a brilliant analyst and stylist

May 24

Footman, David RED PRELUDE Yale
The Life of the Russian Terrorist Zhelyabov $2.75

Zhelyabov was ringleader of the small group of young Nihilists, who assassinated Czar Alexander II in 1881. Carefully, almost drily written, meticulously documented, this will appeal to careful students rather than to the general public. The facts are strange and fascinating, but Footman was apparently interested in exact events, rather than drama and color, or even narrative skill. He leans over backwards to be dispassionate. Certain conclusions are inescapable - as true today as in 1870:- the Russians accept naturally an authoritarian government, they have an ancient tradition of bureaucracy, they assume the existence of a secret police. Between the poles of hatred of tyranny and reverence for authority, the Russians circulate in dynamic confusion. *Red Prelude* shows the seeds of the 1917 Revolution. Little has been written prior to this on the mystic peasant Zhelyabc who only escaped being a murderer by falling into a police trap the night before the killing, and who was hung with the terrorists who carried it through.

May ~~29~~ 18

Graham, Frank THE BROOKLYN DODGERS Putnam $2.75

A championship book about the team that grew in Brooklyn. What a team! The Dodgers are known the world around as "the bums" - "the daffiness boys" - by all and sundry cognomens, none of them dignified or respectable. This is their story, from the first professional team in 1883 up to the last strike of the 1944 season. It tells of Brooklyn greats and near greats, of Ebbets, the McKeevers, Robinson, McPhail, Durocher, Rickey, and hundreds of players who contributed to the comedy and the tragedy of baseball in Brooklyn. Not merely a recital of records and names but a story that weaves itself into one fabric of baseball as a game, as big business, as a who's who of America's favorite sport. Any baseball fan will get a kick out of the inside stories that Graham, Sports Editor of the N.Y. Evening Sun tells. Dodger fans will eat it up. Each period of baseball history is made interesting but the McPhail-Durocher period is unbelievably fascinating.

Coldwell, M.J. LEFT TURN, CANADA Duell, Sloan & Pearce $2.75

An important book for balance in better understanding of what is happening - politically, economically, socially, in Canada. Coldwell is the leader of the Cooperative Commonwealth Federation, Canada's "middle way" between the reactionary stranglehold of Big Business in government and Communism. The CCF is already operating in Saskatchewan and has passed constructive, forward looking legislation designed to protect agriculture, to strengthen labor, to expand social welfare, education, cooperatives, and to lay the groundwork for reconstruction and rehabilitation. The book, however, is more than a picture of the test case; it is a study - a challenging and revealing one - of Canada's trends toward strangling cartels, her inadequacies in social legislation, her political dissensions and compromises - and the program of her fast-growing new party.

June 1

Peat, Louisa W. CANADA: NEW WORLD POWER McBride $3.00

A Chamber of Commerce point of view and an enthusiastic presentation of Canada's achievements during the war, which have changed her from a debtor to a creditor nation, have made her third in naval power, have resulted in her growing to maturity - and still trying to operate in adolescent clothes. Chatty, discursive, homey in style - one has to read through the surface to get at the foundations. In appraising the book one realizes that she has given in brief space a feel of Canada's history, of her people, of her variety of interests, resources, occupations - and her vast achievements in transportation (rail and air), in industry and manufacture. But she glosses over Canada's shortcomings in actual application of social legislation; she scarcely even hints at Big Business controls; she slides over matters of constructive plans for peace.

June 7

Walmsley, Leo TURN OF THE TIDE Doubleday, Doran $2.75

A six part autobiography, - attractive, careful without being pedantic for all its inclusion of factual information, and entertaining reading. The English edition was titled *So Many Loves* - not, says the English reviewer, "pinup girls" but diversity of interests. Fishing and boats led to marine biology; one career grooved into another and all contributed to a climax in making a picture, *Turn of the Tide*, from his book *Three Fevers*, a picture which brought him special fame and fortune, and which had a local and professional success. There are varied appeals, - the trained observation makes every detail significant, both in natural and marine history; the craft of writing for magazines; moving pictures; travels in Africa; the Royal Flying Corps of the last war; a moving picture expedition to photograph animals; travels with a donkey; and his loved Yorkshire coast. To those who enjoyed his novel *Love in the Sun* this will be refreshing biography.

June 8

Wall, Roy FISH AND GAME COOKERY M.S. Mill
$2.00

Written by an experienced sportsman, this will doubtless prove a culinary delight for camp cooks *de luxe*, plus supplying the sportsmen who count on taking game home with the necessary information for care of game and fish in the field, for preparation for transportation in a way to preserve as much as possible of the initial flavor. There are instructions too for the fine points of cleaning, skinning, drawing the blood, etc. Then, for those who plan to use what they've taken in camp, there is advice on utensils and equipment, provisions, building different kinds of fires, etc. The actual recipes are more in the nature of specific instructions for cooking all types of fish and game, including such out of the ordinary items as beavers' tails, armadillo, etc. Soups, sauces, garnishings, vegetables are included.

~~June 11~~ ~~Aug 16~~ Aug 20

Brogan, D.W. THE FREE STATE Knopf
$2.00

Once again a discussion, of historical and cultural derivation and universal implications, as Brogan (author of *The English People* and *The American Character*) examines the case for freedom, and contrasts the tradition of Germany with that of the Western world from which it has been separated. The damages which state tyranny has brought to the life of the spirit, to progress, in a country which permits no possibility of criticism of reform; politics, its virtues and drawbacks, with the healthy protection of the party system; academic and journalistic freedom; the encouragement of diversity; and finally liberty and arms, and militarism in the free state where war is the last argument - not the only one...Enlightening evaluation, pointed, persuasive.

June 11

Quennell, Peter THE PROFANE VIRTUES Viking
$3.00

* Literary biography of high merit, rather than of widely popular appeal (witness his provocative study of Byron, appearing in two volumes, 1935 and 1941) - this is fine portraiture and finished writing, sharpened by psychological awareness, modulated by delicate detachment. This time Quennell has chosen four figures, each highly individual yet expressive of certain attitudes of their time, the Augustan Age of conscious enlightenment and vitality. Boswell, the biographer, who lived intensely through others, who pursued the worldly and literary and great with "inveterate inquisitiveness", and whose protean mentality and emotions led to restless travels and affairs and a dissolute old age...Edward Gibbon, historian, serious, cautious, controlled, whose life became largely the record of his work's development, whose decorum brought no heights, no depths, and who embodied the "profane virtues of sincerity and moderation"...Laurence Sterne, novelist, the effusive and passionate parson, whose sentimental violence and avid emotionalism, perhaps stimulated by consumption, led to scandal and success...John Wilke, patriot, the good natural rebel, frivolous and notorious in his public career and private character, who until the end found the excitement his nature demanded in profligacy and patriotism.

~~June 12~~ July 19

LaFarge, Oliver RAW MATERIAL Houghton, Mifflin
$2.50

Rather extraordinary detachment for an objective self analysis in an autobiography that reveals a life through topical influences rather than chronological development. Through this process, one sees the molding of an artist, his home environment of culture, traditions and aesthetic appreciation; his schooling, and the pall cast by Groton and its snobbery and self-satisfaction and assumption of the rightness of the Groton mold; Harvard, and the discovery of intellectual freedom and of physical expression through rowing; science - archaeology and anthropology, the Mayans, Guatemala and Mexico, and the life

of New Orleans French Quarter, where sex found new meaning in his eyes; and then the period when the Indians became an obsession and a revelation. And throughout, the thread of his writing, of success(with *Laughing Boy*) and relative failure as he groped for new expression- and a marriage which fulfilled him, enriched him. There are briefly glimpsed scenes at home, from boyhood on. There are occasional meetings with other minds and spirits. But it is almost wholly an unfolding of the man himself. Now - in the ATC - he is finding new expression.

July
~~June~~ 13

Cloete, Stuart AGAINST THESE THREE: Houghton, Mifflin
Paul Kruger, Cecil Rhodes and Lobengula, Last King of the Matabele $3.50

Cloete, himself a South African, has steeped himself in his country's history, and turned it to good account in *Turning Wheels* and other novels of the troubled years of Boer-British struggles for dominance in South Africa. Now - in the interlocking stories of three dominant figures of that time and place, he has shared his findings. In Lobengula he has given us the dramatic story of a native ruler, rescued from imminent death in childhood by a white girl captive, and - in maturity - standing out against the encroachment of the whites, both Boer and English. Greatest emphasis is laid, however, on Paul Kruger, the Oom Paul of his novels, Boer farmer, politician, organizer, defender of the cause of liberty and independence, a spiritual force, a leader when war was precipitated, Civil Wars, wars against natives, and two Boer-British wars. Then - an opposing force - Cecil Rhodes, enormously successful from the standpoint of wealth, but caring for money only as it meant power. In the gold fields and the diamond mines he saw road to Empire, the beginnings of power politics as Britain, Germany, France, Belgium vied for control. Cecil Rhodes had a gift for friendship - sometimes, as with Jameson, a friend betrayed Rhodes' ambitions. The conflict between Rhodes and Kruger was inevitable - with Rhodes modern fascism began - and Rhodesia proved the cockpit of Africa. In Kruger Democracy had its leader. Both men loved Africa, but Rhodes sold Africa short, and it devolved upon Smuts to achieve a measure of unity....A rich and unusual background, but the average reader will find it involved, almost confusing reading.

June 18

Surmelian, Leon Z. I ASK YOU, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN Dutton
$2.75

A varied and unusual life story of an Armenian who lived through massacres, revolution, migrations, from the old country, where a strongly knit family life was smashed with the Turkish massacre, through brief experience in adoption by the Turks, escape and return to his country, and reunion with his family through some Greeks. Then followed rootless touring of schools, participation in proletarian ideas, in Germanic precepts of self-godliness, army life, where destitution and hunger inflamed his nationalism, his devotion to his country now a Socialist Soviet Republic...Finally America and the agricultural college at Kansas State, Manhattan, where practical farm experience gave him familiarity with his new land and identity with its people....Another angle on the making of an American, simple, unaffectedly emotional, with no attempt at the naive humor that distinguishes *Anything Can Happen.* Saroyan introduction.

Tryon, Lewis R. MD POOR MAN'S DOCTOR Prentice Hall
$2.75

Autobiography, modest and personal, of a doctor who practised the world over without acquiring either fame or money. Born in Hamburg, Pennsylvania-Dutch town, he carried forward a six-generation tradition and trained to be a doctor. Peg, a nurse, soured him on women for a time - poverty kept him a bachelor. He practised in a mill town for six years among the foreign born, in a coal mining community, in the prudish Pennsylvania - Dutch community near his birthplace; he went overseas in World War I, again with the Red

Cross to fight typhus in Estonia; he went to sea on a rum runner as ship doctor; he spent some time in Hawaii; and finally he joined the Veterans Administration. A likable chronicle, out of the groove but not top drawer.

~~June 19~~ August. 14

Booker, Edna Lee FLIGHT FROM CHINA Macmillan $3.00

Successor to *News Is My Job* and conclusion of twenty odd years in China, as Edna Lee Booker and her husband combine their narratives of escape. The summer of 1940 as Japanese wheels ground down, incidents of insolence led to acts of atrocity, and finally, John booked passage for Edna and their child as the last foreign exodus took place. He stayed on through Pearl Harbor, saw inflation Japanese controlled, torture, brutalization of the population, internment of foreigners. Here is his record of seven months in a camp, of privations partly counterbalanced by activities organized by internees, and finally repatriation. In personal, affectionate terms, there is a good deal about China, by people who understand it - human drama in small detail and large.

Churchill, Henry S. THE CITY IS THE PEOPLE 6/27 ✓ Reynal & Hitchcock ✓ $3.00

In view of the extent of postwar housing movements, it is important that the problems involved, from both historical and theoretical points of view, be surveyed. Mr. Churchill is an architect who has devoted years to study and practice in the fields of housing and city planning. He has imagination and vision, but is not starry-eyed. He approaches the subject from the social angle, first outlining city planning of the past, first when medieval cities were built around a dominating structure, for protection, and reflected the political, social and economic order of the time, as did later cities, such as Paris and Washington. But for the most part, cities in the United States grew out of necessity, with controls mere temporizing, directed more to preservation of land values than economics of land utilization. The result was over-crowding, false values, tax problems and vested interests. It took the slump to highlight the need to do something, and various remedial measures were instituted. Mr. Churchill tends to understate the contributions made, especially in methods of mortgages and finance. His eye is on the ideal of complete urban redevelopment, and the text analyzes such a program from all angles, - physical, financial, political, social, economic and aesthetic; it shows the trend towards better use of land and creation of values in health, comfort, good living. Simply and well written, but because of technical nature, of appeal to special market.

June 21

Eskelund, Karl MY CHINESE WIFE Doubleday, Doran $2.50

Sometimes hilarious, always entertaining autobiography of double nationality, as a Danish writer tells of the problems involved in his marrying the Chinese girl he loves, of years of separation, the birth of their baby - the background of the war. His father was a dentist in Shanghai, where he got newspaper work for the China Press, after a short course in journalism in America. In Hankow he sees his first large scale suffering - he virtually walks from Canton to Hong Kong to deliver pictures - then is sent on to Chungking. Finally his marriage to Chi-yun and departure for Copenhagen, where the *City of Flint* incident added excitement. Then Denmark's fall - the race to French Indo-China and China - and Pearl Harbor precipitating their escape again from Shanghai through Free China. He covered the Flying Tigers, but an incident between his small daughter and the Generalissimo's son made him *persona non grata*. So out of China, via the Hump, and on to America...Frank - with popular, and unpopular, prejudices, this is a disarmingly appreciative recording of mishaps, misadventures and mixed marriage. Line drawings.

June 21

Romulo, Brig. Gen. Carlos P. MY BROTHER AMERICANS Doubleday, Doran $2.50

Frankly, this seems to be a scissors and paste job, done to fill a gap before he can write a "Return to the Philippines" - and riding to reasonable popularity on Romulo's personal eclat. It is the record of his stay between the Fall and the invasion, and it charts the process of disillusionment, then faith in America reborn, as he talks to people everywhere, - on trains, in factories, training camps, schools, colleges, before club groups, rotaries, etc., etc. Everywhere he finds people friendly, generous, never letting him feel himself an alien. He comments on the extensive development of club life; he tells of excesses of hospitality, of experiences on lecture platforms, with program committees, on bond drives, and so on. He finds everywhere links between America and Bataan. And he falls for the American vice of collecting souvenirs. No particular social significance, though he comments on labor problems, on remoteness from the actual war, on his realization of race tensions, on the press, the War Department, and so on...An unimportant book which keeps a popular Filipino before the public eye.

June 22

Woodward, W.E. TOM PAINE: *America's Godfather* Dutton $3.50

Woodward does not see eye to eye with Howard Fast on some of the things he has to say about Tom Paine, but he cannot take away from him the credit of having done more than anyone else in making today's readers aware of the vital part Paine played in American Democracy. No doubt, this Woodward biography will be accepted as definitive; Fast's fictionized biography will continue to appeal to a wider popular taste. Woodward gives us considerably more detail of Paine's checkered career in England, - trained as a stay maker, hating the job, trying twice to run away to sea and once succeeding in enlisting on a privateer; serving as exciseman but recurrently taking up his old trade; marrying twice, - his first wife dying, his second wife-in-name-only living apart from him after he went into bankruptcy. Franklin aided him in going to America - and Woodward traces the wayward fortune of a man of brilliant gifts, high ideals, no hard-headedness when it came to protecting his own interests, and with a genius for making enemies - and some great friends. The American Revolution owes much to him; the English social revolution (though here Woodward fails - it seems to me - to follow through); and the French Revolution. One gets swift sketches of changing social forces, here and abroad, and one follows Paine's life to its tragic, poverty stricken end. Woodward denies his degeneration, his drinking and sluttishness, attributing this to slander, spread by his enemies. He quotes liberally from his writings...Sell on interest in Paine - and on Woodward's fine gift as biographer.

June 25

Givvin, Lon-Sgt. U.S.M.C.R. THINK IT OVER MATE M.S. Mill $1.25

If you want to go into the Navy, "think it over, mate" - says Lon Givvin, in showing how you can't win against navy procedure, naval law. He traces the historical record, from the British Admiralty to the present day in the U.S. Navy. He gives the framework - basically the same today; he traces the modifications from the extreme penalties and physical violence of the old days to the hard and fast rules today. He lists offenses from AWOL to Venereal Disease - and the punishments. He outlines procedure from arrest to court martial....A useful handbook for those entering the navy (particularly if they think it is an easy path to follow) - and for their families. Published with official endorsement.

~~June 28~~ ~~August~~ October 23

Peake, Harry C. PRACTICAL DOG BREEDING Macmillan $1.95

Basic education for the beginning breeder or kennel owner, this is primarily concerned with production of high class or show dogs and raising dogs for profit. It contains, necessarily, information on genetics, the care of dam and stud and their conditioning, whelping and what to do when the puppies come, the raising of the puppies. Feeding, kennel care, breeding aims and heredity, mating are included in the overall picture. The dog owner is advised to supplement this with more detailed information on the particul breed. Good factual handbook - definitely practical and basic.

June ~~28~~ 26.

Slonimsky, Nicolas MUSIC OF LATIN AMERICA Crowell $3.50

An extremely important book for all music departments in schools and colleges and libraries, as the author, himself critic and composer and author of *Music Since 1900*, analyzes the patterns of musical culture of 20 Latin American countries. He gives as background an account of his own concert tour, the musical centers, leading personalities, and factual data on instruments, songs, dances, etc. Then specifically, country by country, he evaluates the origins, national types, rhythms, themes - the musicians and composers - and the availability of their works in this country. Valuable reference work, illustrated by halftones, and including glossary, musical dictionary, etc.

June 6.

Bryan, III Lt. Comdr. Joseph & Reed, Philip MISSION BEYOND DARKNESS Duell, Sloan & Pearce $2.00

* The specific account of the night landings of the 19th of June, 1942, as fighters and bombers of Task Force 58 tried to find their carriers after their battle with the Japanese fleet. The story of the tight going and ticklish, tricky work that provided aerial miracles in a landing stampede of the individual planes and pilots; of the responsibilities of those aboard the carriers; of the rescue work of the destroyers and escort ships; of escapes from death and utter destruction through rapid aid to those who didn't make their ships; of foul ups and rogue ships; of obstacles of dwindling fuel, navigation, misunderstood signals...The best wingmen in the world were almost defeated by darkness on their first night return. A graphic telling aviation record, which those who saw *Fighting lady* will appreciate particularly...The book is to be illustrated with 24 pages of half tones, and added impetus will be given by *Reader's Digest* featuring of approximately 10,000 words.

~~June 29~~ July 13

Barmine, Alexander ONE WHO SURVIVED Putnam
The Life Story of a Russian Under the Soviets $3.75

Violent anti-Stalinist diatribe, and only superficially the suavely engaging story of an employee of the Russian government. Barmine was with the embassy in Athens during the 1936-37 purges, and narrowly escaped liquidation by getting out of Athens, then to Paris, where an unsuccessful attempt was made on his life, and finally to the U.S.A. This book does little to clarify the horrid mystery of the Russian purges. One must give some credence to eye witness accounts of events in Russia. But the strictures on Stalin are for the most part so trivial, so definitely backstairs gossip, that they diminish belief in the balance of the record. The story is told with too engaging candor- but it lacks the ring of sincerity, the intellectual grasp, that would make it a contribution to the Russian picture. Will appeal to the many critics of Soviet Russia.

Schacht, Al G I HAD FUN June 14. Putnam $2.00

Following Bob Hope and Joe E. Brown in reporting to the folks back home, the Clown Prince of baseball tells of his experiences in entertaining the boys overseas and how

the all-American love of the game and the importance of news from home helped him amuse soldiers, sailors, the wounded, and those about to go into action. From the adventure of a bottle of Irish whiskey - to Port Lyautey - Casablanca - Oran - Algiers - Tunis - Sicily. Bizerte - Constantine and home; then to New Guinea and camps and bases there; he toured, tossed off his routine, solo, and lived with the boys. He learned about GI Joe first hand his humor, patience, courage, and he shares his unabashed pride in what they are doing, and sentiment by a comedian sobered by personal knowledge of what its like...Amusing incidents rather than lines of gags, told by a guy who did it for the boys he loved.

June ~~27~~ 27

Wharton, John F. THE THEORY AND PRACTICE OF EARNING A LIVING Simon & Schuster ✓$2.50

Economics in simplified terms, for vocational and educational profit - but not a practical popularization in tabloid form. A serious discussion of the basic principles of wealth and its acquisition, in theory and application. Kinds of wealth, land, capital goods, the necessities, the non-necessities, etc. Creating a business of your own; securing capital, incorporation, distribution, creating new money, monopoly, control, speculation. And lastly, the broader implications of money, its international aspects, the moral concept of power, capital vs labor, and the importance of education and ethics in any individual's enterprise...With futures as uncertain as they are, this may find a very real place in the serious study of the boys who will come to-what?

TOO MANY WHICH CAME TOO LATE
(All Practically Published)

Stockton, J. Roy THE GASHOUSE GANG *And A Couple of Other Guys* Barnes $2.75

Rags to riches in the story of the St. Louis Cardinals - good, colorful baseball incidentalia. Here are the facts, secrets, anecdotes of the team, and of individual players, manager, owner, etc. The development of the team, its exploits, character and characters in dugout and public. The 1930's and Collins, Martin, Medwick, Frisch, and famous Dizzy Dean, Durocher and their careers...the growth of a club made up of youngsters picked up and trained into national figures. Written by a St. Louis Post-Dispatch man.

Jenkins, Dorothy H. ANNUAL FLOWERS *From Seed Packet to Bouquet* Barrows
Wilson, Helen Van Pelt PERENNIALS PREFERRED *Each* $2.75

Two very satisfactory handbooks for the home gardener with not too extensive a purse, and with limitations of space and help and time. In other words - gardening on a ration - with due confidence in the importance of beauty as well as utility in a garden. Both books follow parallel patterns:- when, how, where, which - whether using perennials as a basic background, or annuals for the necessary succession of bloom. Soil - exposure - fertilization - cultivation - diseases, all treated adequately for the amateur. I found particularly useful the excellent balance each author keeps on old favorites and newcomers; on flowers for decoration, flowers for cutting; on planning for succession of bloom, texture and color. Good advice on cutting, arranging, on church plantings. Excellent lists. Not too technical - nor yet too general. Illustrated. Indexed.

Rony, George THIS, TOO, SHALL PASS AWAY Creative Age $2.75

A story of successive escapes:- first, from the famine and cold and Cheka of post-revolutionary years in Leningrad, to Siberia, and a forced return trip in company of a debauching White Russian Colonel, and later in a trainload of cadavers; next, an escape which involved the deaths of his friends; a third saw him into Germany, where he progressed from taxi - driving to films, and where he married beautiful, adulterous Helen. Then came Hitler - and again escape to France - divorce and marriage to Natasha, childhood sweetheart Flight once more, into Spain, Portugal and America. No inhibitions for a fully dramatized life story which has its moments of exaggeration.

Slochower, Harry NO VOICE IS WHOLLY LOST Creative Age $3.75

A major study of contemporary literature in terms of its philosophical motivation, evaluations from a metaphysical, rather than literary, approach, - a contribution for the cognoscente...There are, he believes, two aspects of alienation in the war era, - first toward the philosophy of freedom and individualism, characterized by surrender of absolute standards; secondly, the traditional orthodoxy which has been yielding to communal forces. He illustrates his points through writers who epitomize them - Nietzsche, Huxley, Hemingway, Dewey, Gide, Silone, Remarque, Dos Passos, Celine...Then the absolutes - the catholicism - the tradition - the transcendentalism, in Hamsun, Lawrence, Belloc, Maritain, Undset, Santayana, Proust, Rilke, Spengler, Odets, Marx, Shaw, Steinbeck, Mann.

Sayers, Michael & Kahn, Albert E. THE PLOT AGAINST THE PEACE Dial $2.75

There is some of the material Riess gave us in *The Germans Go Underground* - and more about plans for cartels, revival of industry, of financing, the conspiracy of German officers, the growth of the terrorists - and the German underground activities in this country. There is, too, additional detail on Pan Germanism and the processes employed, - depopulation of minorities, death factories, etc. And - in line with the revelations of *Under Cover*, there's up-to-the-minute data on current activities of peace organizations, "mothers" groups, isolationist journalism, and the abortive sedition trials. Good reading, not over-dramatized but challenging. If Winchell gives it a send-off-a sure seller.

Bernays, Edward L. TAKE YOUR PLACE AT THE PEACE TABLE Duell, Sloan & Pearce $1.00

U.S. Publicist No. 1 with another handbook for the citizen groups which plan to organize to use their influence, individually and collectively, towards insuring the passage of a sound peace. How to study - to use the tools of persuasion - the skills of professional public relations experts. Things the citizen can do - uses of communication systems - guides to strategy. Strategy-Appeals-Organization-Timing-Methods for organizing the community. Good handbook for reference in public libraries. Bibliographies, etc.

Rosenman, Dorothy A MILLION HOMES A YEAR Harcourt, Brace $3.50

The chairman of the Nat'l. Com. on Housing discusses the need for housing, and the handicaps it faces, in a realistic, practical consideration of urban and rural living, of incomes too low to meet building costs, of money, taxes, land and construction. She shows how construction costs could be lowered - the tax reforms proposed - neighborhood considerations - urban problems. She discusses the pros and cons of public housing. A judicious, informed and substantiated presentation of the problem in its various aspects.

Kingdon, Frank AN UNCOMMON MAN: *Henry Wallace & 60 Million Jobs* The Reader's Pres Paper $1.00 Cloth $2.00

Accepting the fact that Kingdon is a wholehearted admirer of Wallace, one finds nonetheless an excellent "dissection" of the man, the job he has done, and the grounds for faith in his promise of 60 million jobs-provided industry, business and government combine in making them possible. Wallace the man - a biographical sketch, an analysis of his achievements in science and business, his contributions through governmental agencies, the factors that indicate that he signifies not death to free enterprise but progress. A comparison of Beveridge and Wallace. A chapter devoted to criticism levelled at Wallace - and the answers. A suggestion that Wallace has no aptitude for the Washington shenanigans and needs a political and diplomatic double...Good reading for his friends.

Field, Marshall FREEDOM IS MORE THAN A WORD Univ. of Chicago $2.50

What does Field stand for and what is he trying to do-and why? Here is the answer, as Field himself explains his basic position of being "against people who push other people around just for the fun of it" - his concept of true democracy - his reasons for supportin his fighting newspapers. Easy reading and challenging, whether or not you agree.

PLEASE NOTE THESE CHANGES IN TITLE, DATE AND PRICE

Blakiston

Shellabarger, S. - CAPTAIN FROM CASTILE - Taken over from Little, Brown

Bruce

Dunne, P.M. - A PADRE VIEWS SOUTH AMERICA - This is a Catholic Literary Foundation selection - not a Catholic Book Club selection 129

Magner, J.A. - PERSONALITY AND SUCCESSFUL LIVING - from 3/?? to 7/30. $2.50 price not definite 129

Doubleday, Doran

Bontemps & Conroy - THEY SEEK A CITY - from 5/3 to 5/17 150

Corbett, Elizabeth - RED HAIRED LADY - price from $2.50 to $2.75 142

Defoe, Daniel - ROBINSON CRUSOE - from 4/12 to 4/26 43

Fenton, C.L. & M.A. - THE STORY OF THE GREAT GEOLOGISTS - from 5/17 to 6/7 151

Orcutt, R. - MERCHANT OF ALPHABETS - from 4/23 to 5/17 101

Grosset & Dunlap

Pyle, Ernie - BRAVE MEN - taken over from Holt - Priced at $3.00

Smith, Lillian - STRANGE FRUIT - taken over from Reynal & Hitchcock as of 6/1. Priced at $2.75

Harper

Brown, M.W. - THE HOUSE OF A HUNDRED WINDOWS (J) - from 5/16 to 4/24 159

Knopf

Alarcon, P.A. de - THE SCANDAL - from 5/14 to 5/21 113

Appleby, Paul - BIG DEMOCRACY - from 5/14 to 5/21 - price from $3.00 to $2.75 104

de la Torre, L. - ELIZABETH IS MISSING p from 5/14 to 5/21. Price from $3.00 to $3.50 121

Koch-Weser, Erich - HITLER AND BEYOND - from 6/11 to 5/21 154

Kupper, W. - THE GOLDEN HOOF - from 5/14 to 5/21 151

Lofts, Norah - JASSY - postponed to ?? 144

Maki, John M. - JAPANESE MILITARISM - from 5/14 to 5/21 105

Maple, Florence - FAMILY TREE - from 5/14 to 5/21 95

Rosaire, Forrest - EAST OF MIDNIGHT - from 5/14 to 5/21 95

Rosinger, L. - CHINA'S CRISIS - from 6/11 to 7/16 155

Stone, William S. - THE SHIP OF FLAME - postponed to ?? 151

Wolfe, L.M. - SON OF THE WILDERNESS - definite date 7/16 88 & 53

Little Brown

Lavin, Mary - THE HOUSE IN CLEWE STREET - from 5/15 to 5/22 114

Lawson, Robert - MR. WILMER - from 5/15 to 5/21 92

Queen, Ellery - THE MURDERER IS A FOX - from 5/15 to 5/22 117

Longmans Green

de Palencia, I. - SMOULDERING FREEDOM - from 5/?? to 7/?? 153

Morrow

Wickenden, Dan - THE WAYFARERS - from 5/10 to 6/21. July selection of Literary Guild 95

BULLETIN from

Virginia Kirkus' Bookshop Service 38 Bank Street

Vol. XIII April 15, 1945 No. 8

SPRING JUVENILE SUPPLEMENT: No. 7

PICTURE STORY BOOKS

Krauss, Ruth — THE CARROT SEED — Harper $1.00

Even tiny children love to see things grow, and this is a picture book about a carrot seed that grew. The publishers, in choosing Crockett Johnson, creator of Barnaby and Mr. O'Malley, as illustrator, have picked the ideal person for the job. Barnaby seems to tickle the funny bone of three to six as much as he does their elders. This is the story of a small boy who plants a carrot seed, waters it and cultivates it and ignores the scepticism of his elders. Faith (and care) win out and it comes up, the biggest carrot in many counties. A good humored tale-pictures in two and four colors - 32 pages. 6 x 8½. Cloth binding. (5/26.) Nyc. 5-23.

Dennis, Morgan — BURLAP — Viking $1.00

Morgan Dennis' dog books have become collectors' items, and fortunately for the small fry for whom he writes his stories, he can spin a yarn as well. This is intended for younger children than some of its predecessors - it's not important as a story, but it has his infallible charm...Dick comes to visit at his grandparents' farm and it is love at first sight for him and Burlap, little hound who always did the wrong thing. He played with rabbits instead of chasing them; he got himself caught instead of a woodchuck; he took a scarecrow for a tramp. And then he gets Dick in wrong too, when they are sent on an errand to deliver jelly doughnuts - and Dick comes home, empty-handed, reporting the doughnuts stolen by a bear. Next morning - after Dick has been punished - his story is proved true. Burlap had treed a bear, escaped from the circus - and he and Dick are heroes. (5/4)

BOOKS TO READ ALOUD (6-9)

Chrestien, F. H. — EVELYN AND THE FISH — Duell, Sloan & Pearce $2.00

** Here's a Must for all children who like the Babar books. It is about the size of the small Babar's - and the illustrations by the author in full color and black and white and are enchanting. The heroine is an elephant, who, in trying to catch tadpoles in a glass bowl, slips on a banana peel, and emerges with a beautiful fish. They set out to see the world together, stopping for butterscotch sundaes which Evelyn loves, working their way across the sea in a boat, visiting a country where there were lots of bananas, and where the color of the shirts and boys' faces was reversed, being rescued from a desert by a pilot who supplied Evelyn with a spare set of wings and roller skates and tied her to his plane, and finally reaching India, where Evelyn demanded to be let down in a parachute. But the fish wanted to go on to China, so Evelyn sucked her into her trunk and b-l-e-w so hard that seven days later she splashed into the Yangtze River. Attractively designed (Hyperion Press) - cloth binding. (Published)

Crawford, Eleanor D. *Ed.* & Illus. LIVING BIBLE LIBRARY *Distr. by* Duell, Sloan & Pearce
Designed by Hyperion Press Each $1.50

THE BEGINNING OF THE WORLD JESUS SHOWS THE WAY THE EASTER STORY

These three slim volumes - squarish, bound in mottled cloth, illustrated in color and black and white - launch a new project, which in idea is good - in performance disappointing. The plan is to publish picture stories based on Old and New Testament, with greatly simplified text, and illustrations "representing an interesting new development in religious illustrations...capturing the interest of children today". And the result? Wooden drawing, with emotion dramatized in gesture and expression, silhouetted against flat color background which conveys virtually nothing of setting or period... *The Beginning of the World* is taken from the first nine chapters of Genesis; *Jesus Shows the Way* incorporates some of the miracles; *The Easter Story* starts with the Last Supper and goes through to the Resurrection. The author has successfully avoided any complications of denominational bias - but the result is wholly unsatisfactory. (Publ.)

Torrey, Marjorie ARTIE AND THE PRINCESS Howell, Soskin
$2.00

* An engaging story of a little dragon - somewhat overlong, for the average small listener, but charming. The illustrations in color and black and white will delight children who like fanciful, imaginative things. Artie, the little dragon, is an only child, and wants a playmate. On an adventurous trip he finds a lonely Princess who has to invent companions, in spite of the people who live in her castle. Artie practices hard to use his wings for flying, and eventually finds the special talent for breathing fire which frightened him, of value when his Princess' home is attacked by her cousin from across the sea. All turns out well and the Dragon family move into the mountains to be near the royal household. (4/24)

STORY BOOKS FOR THE 9-12's

Self, Margaret Cabell PONIES ON PARADE Dutton
$1.75

This is true story material, for the family of which Margaret Self writes actually has a stable full of ponies and a riding school, up in Connecticut. It's the same family of which she wrote so engagingly in *Those Smith Kids*, we understand, but the storybook name this time is Anderson - Mr. and Mrs. Anderson, Peter and Shirley and Barbara and David and Joan. This is primarily the story of the ponies, anecdotal in quality, told with humor and sympathy, and with some slight degree of factual information about training ponies. The ponies themselves emerge as definite individuals, - Shoebutton, who was a bit of a Jekyll and Hyde, Dandy who was a "skewbald", Black Imp who deserved his name, Yum Yum the donkey, and so on. Sure appeal for young horse lovers. Delightful illustrations in crayon technique. (Published)

FACT BOOKS FOR THE 9-12's

Lloyd, Trevor SKY HIGHWAYS: *Geography from the Air* Houghton, Mifflin
Illus. by Armstrong Sperry $2.50

A hypothetical trip by air from Washington, D. C. to Chungking, gives us an instructive trip, involving the problems of air travel, the careful checking with meteorologists, the provisions made for changes in atmospheric conditions, the innoculations against diseases prevalent in foreign countries, and so on. From Washington to Natal, across Africa to India and China, through Siberia to Alaska, and home - a short geography demonstration en route, and an introduction to modern cartography. Well-written, with careful avoidance of the pitfalls of adult terminology. The Sperry illustrations are closely linked to the text (with one unfortunate omission of details mentioned therein) - gay color, black and white; charts, diagrams and maps. Cloth. 62 PP. (4/17)

Yeager, Dorr CHITA Knopf
$2.00

This is one of a series of true nature stories, by the author of *Scarface The Story of a Grizzly*. A readable tale of a mountain lion, largest of the cat family, known as a cougar in our western mountains. Chita and her brothers were born in Tahosa Valley, and the story traces the capture of Chita, the rescue by her mother, and her training in stalking, killing, eluding the enemy, chief among them man. With her mother's death, Chita is recaptured, and for a time was caged and exhibited at a roadside restaurant. Then she was released and went back to her mountains to mate and raise her own family, and finally to die in a forest fire. The story is told sympathetically by a man who knows nature, but one could wish he had made it only the story of Chita and left out the ranchers. Well illustrated in black and white by Lynn Bogue Hunt. (4/16)

Proctor, Everitt THAR SHE BLOWS Westminster
$2.00

Racy story of the sea, of whaling, near mutiny, a cruel captain - around about 1856. Young Peter McLean, son of one of the owners of a whale company, ships aboard the *Ella Gordon*, out of New Bedford, bound for the Antarctic. He intends to see for himself what the life is like - so he can better conditions when he comes into control. But his trip is complicated by the fact that his captain is sworn enemy of his father, and Peter's years at sea are colored by hatred and distrust. Plenty happens, making exciting reading for a boy who loves sea yarns. Good black and white illustrations by David Hendrickson. (5/7)

BOOKS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE - Fiction

Forester, C. S. COMMODORE HORNBLOWER Little, Brown
$2.50

The average juvenile adventure tale of the sea (see above) pales into mediocrity when compared with a lusty tale of the intrepid Hornblower - now a Commodore - bluff, rugged, tender-hearted. This fourth volume in the series should take younger readers back to the earlier volumes. Forester spins a good yarn; his historical background is unimpeachable (this time it is the Napoleonic wars, and the ill-timed attack on Russia). Hornblower and his good friend, peg-legged Bush as captain of the Nonsuch, have adventure piled on adventure, and win new glories...For full report, see adult section - P. 112. (5/21)

Non-fiction

Zim, Herbert S. ROCKETS AND JETS Harcourt, Brace
$3.00

A reliable clarifier on scientific subjects *(Submarines - Parachutes, etc.)* now gives us the history, the past, present and probable future of rockets and jet-propelled planes. He explains in understandable terms, the basic principles, delves into early experiments (going back to 1232 AD); the role of different countries in this experimentation; he clarifies the differences. There are interesting sections on the bazooka, the V-1 and V-2, on anti-aircraft rockets. These are involved and difficult subjects to handle interestingly, but Mr. Zim has done a good job. The text is illustrated by excellent photographs, with diagrams and drawings by J. MacDonald. Index.(Pub.)

Bernstein, Walter KEEP YOUR HEAD DOWN Viking
$2.00

Photographic, terse accounts of various assignments that in their shorn simplicity are effective and good. Here is an induction scene, an afternoon of training at Ft. Benning, a visit to parachute training quarters, an evening at a juke joint, a Saturday night in guard house, rehearsals of *This Is The Army*, night alarums aboard a freighter, reconnaissance platoon outside Messina, mountain troops in Italy, a seven day march to Marshal Tito's headquarters, etc. Highlights things familiar to soldiers-and of interest to people back home. (Full report P. 125) (5/7)